

## **Community Resource Paper**

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Port of Seattle Tour: <http://www.portseattle.org/community/education/seairschool.shtml>

Hey Sailors! Let's set sail and visit the Port of Seattle (for free!).

Have you been stuck in your classroom too long? Maybe it's time to change things up and take your students on an educational field trip to the Port of Seattle. You will be amazed at how much the Port has to offer students and teachers in King County schools.

The Port of Seattle, the tenth busiest port in the United States, offers all-day experiences. Students first attend a class on international trade (appropriate for grades three through eight). This class introduces the students to how the busy port works and some of the types of jobs people do there.

Next it's on to an Argosy boat tour of Elliot Bay. During the tour the students will get a chance to see the ships they just learned about in the class, up close. They'll visit the big container ships, as well as see the grain loading areas up close. They will also play seaport bingo, a fun game designed by the port, while on board the ship.

Finally, everyone will head to the Odyssey Maritime Discovery Center. This is a hands-on museum where students will interact with model ships which they can load and unload with a joystick.

Registration for the Seaport tours begins in the fall and all tours take place in the spring. Be sure to visit their website and take a look at some of the curricular materials offered. They include pre and post assessments, written information, and essential questions to guide your day. For example, you might want to get your students thinking about where their clothes, toys, cars, and furniture come from. Many of them, of course, come from other countries and first arrive in the United States through the Port of Seattle. This field trip can get your students thinking outside of the classroom. Don't miss it.